

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A metal hollow golf club head comprising:

a head main body including both side edges of a crown portion, a rear edge of the crown portion, both side edges of a face portion, and a side portion integrally;

a top plate including a crown main portion, which is other member of the crown portion than the both side edges of the crown portion and the rear edge of the crown portion, and an upper edge of the face portion integrally; and

a face plate including a face main portion, which is other member of the face portion than the both side edges of the face portion and the upper edge of the face portion, wherein:

the head main body, the top plate, and the face plate are coupled to each other; and

metal material of the top plate has longitudinal elastic modulus lower than that of metal material of the head main body and metal material of the face plate.

2. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein:

the head main body is formed by casting;

the top plate is formed by one of forging and press molding;

and

the face plate is formed by one of casting, forging, and press molding.

3. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein:  
the top plate has thickness in a range of 0.5 mm to 1.2  
mm;

the head main body is larger in thickness than the top  
plate by 0.2 mm to 3.0 mm; and

the face plate is larger in thickness than the top plate  
by 1.0 mm to 2.5 mm.

4. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
the head main body, the top plate, and the face plate are welded.

5. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
the upper edge of the face portion has a width in a vertical  
direction in a range of 6 mm to 9 mm.

6. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
an area ratio of the face plate to the face portion is in a  
range of 60 % to 90 %.

7. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein  
an area ratio of the top plate to the crown portion is in a  
range of 30 % to 80%.

8. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein:

the head main body, the top plate, and the face plate includes at least one of titanium and titanium alloy;

the top plate has the longitudinal elastic modulus equal to or lower than 10,500 kgf/mm<sup>2</sup>; and

the head main body has the longitudinal elastic modulus equal to or greater than 11,000 kgf/mm<sup>2</sup>.

9. The golf club head according to claim 8, wherein a difference between the top plate and the head main body in the longitudinal elastic modulus is in a range of 1,000 kgf/mm<sup>2</sup> to 3,000 kgf/mm<sup>2</sup>.

10. The golf club head according to claim 1, wherein the face plate includes at the upper edge thereof a protrusion portion extending along a rear surface of a lower edge of the top plate.